



## State of Tennessee

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 267

By Representative Harrison

and

Senator Faulk

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Justin Nelson on his selection as Teacher of the Year at Cherokee High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Justin Nelson is one such estimable educator who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson was recently selected as Teacher of the Year by Cherokee High School, an honor most befitting his outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence he has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson graduated magna cum laude from Carson-Newman College in 2000, from which he earned a Bachelor of Music degree in choral and instrumental; and

WHEREAS, employed by Hawkins County Schools since 2001, Justin Nelson has served with acumen and alacrity for ten exemplary years as a ninth through twelfth grade choral and general music teacher at Cherokee High School; and

WHEREAS, Justin Nelson is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate his students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson has graciously volunteered his time to numerous scholastic efforts, including serving as a cooperating teacher with Carson-Newman College for two student teachers during the spring and fall of 2008, as a member of the Hawkins County Fine Arts Textbook Adoption Committee in 2006, as Chair of Fine Arts at Cherokee High School since 2010, and as a presenter at the Smokey Mountain Music Teachers Association in Greeneville in 2002, at which time he presented "Teaching Pianists to Sight-Read Vocally"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson is a distinguished member of the National Education Association, the National Association for Music Education, and the East Tennessee Vocal Association, which he served as the Upper Area Representative from 2008-09; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, he was also named the Cherokee High School Teacher of the Year for 2006-07, and he was recognized in *Who's Who Among American Teachers* for 2003-04 and 2006-07; and

WHEREAS, Justin Nelson is an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church of Rogersville, which he serves as the Director of Music Ministries and has held several events in which both the church's choral group and Cherokee High School's choral group participated, and during which the two groups were joined by members of the Knoxville and Kingsport Symphony orchestras; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, he was chosen as the Bi-Vocational Staff Minister of the Year for the Tennessee Baptist Convention for his work at First Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson has also had several opportunities to lead music or sing in other churches or community Ecumenical services; he has sung at the Rogersville Presbyterian Joy Gift Service, and he has served as the cantor at several services, including the visiting Bishop of

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East Tennessee and for Father Nevil's fiftieth anniversary of ordination at St. Matthias Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, active in his community, he is currently singing with the Knoxville Choral Society, an auditioned choir of approximately 150 singers; he has served on the Board of Directors of the Rogersville Playhouse and the Children's Theatre of Hawkins County; and he has led the Cherokee Concert and Chorale performances regularly at community events, such as the Hawkins County Chamber of Commerce Christmas breakfast and the yearly Baccalaureate Services for Cherokee High School graduating seniors and their families; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson truly serves as an inspiration to his colleagues and students alike, and his friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know him; and


WHEREAS, Justin Nelson epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Justin Nelson on being chosen as Teacher of the Year at Cherokee High School, commend his exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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ADOPTED: APRIL 28, 2011



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2011

  
BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR